

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

At 10 o'clock the Speaker called the House to order.

Mr. Walker presented a petition from L. D. Gilreath and others, of Cherokee county, asking a refunding of taxes overpaid by them. Referred to the committee on claims.

Several reports were received from the standing committees.

SUPREME COURT JUDGE.

On motion of Mr. Kerr, a message was sent to the Senate proposing to raise a joint select committee to inform Judge Ruffin of his election, and to request his acceptance of the same.

COALFIELDS RAILROAD.

On motion of Mr. McKay, the rules were suspended and the bill taken up.

Mr. Williams moved to amend by striking out \$500,000, and inserting \$400,000.

Mr. McKay drew attention to the amount, per mile, granted to other railroads in the State, and that asked for by this bill. He said the amendment would compel the stockholders to take one-half the stock; but, in full confidence of the result, he would accept the amendment. The bill was recommitted to the committee on internal improvements, to make the necessary alteration.

REPORT FROM THE STATE TREASURER.

A report from the State Treasurer, in answer to a resolution of the House, containing the names of the holders of State bonds, &c., was presented.

Mr. Norwood moved it be sent to the Senate, with a proposition to print.

Mr. Hill, of Stokes, on the ground of economy, opposed the printing, as the principal information had been already published in the Treasurer's Report.

After some discussion, in which Messrs. Caldwell, of Guilford, Bridgers, Norwood and Hill of Stokes, participated,

Mr. Norwood withdrew his motion.

It was then proposed to refer it to the committee on finance, which was opposed by Mr. Walser, and rejected.

Mr. Caldwell, of Burke, renewed the motion to send to the Senate with a proposition to print. Adopted.

NEW BILL.

Mr. Costner, to charter Lincoln Lodge, No. 137, A. Y. F. M.

Mr. Heintz, a resolution in favor of Polly ———.

Mr. Thompson, to charter Goldsboro' Mutual Insurance Company.

Mr. Walker, to charter Shoal Creek Male Academy.

Mr. Fleming, to amend the charter of the town of Salisbury.

Mr. Stanford, to charter the town of Kenansville.

Mr. Reeves, concerning four persons of color, and Mr. Leffers, concerning jurors in Carteret county.

BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS.

The Speaker announced the following bills and resolutions, which were ratified:

A bill to repeal an act entitled an act to change the time of holding the courts of common pleas and quarter sessions for Chowan county, passed session of 1857.

A bill to extend the corporate limits of the town of Statesville.

A bill to extend the time for registering grants, deeds, and other conveyances.

A bill to amend the act of 1840, to prevent the falling of timber in the rivers of Cherokee county.

A bill for the protection of wild fowl in the county of Currituck.

A resolution approving the naval commission of the United States to examine the coalfields, and for other purposes.

A bill to prohibit bribery on elections.

A resolution concerning the revised code, authorizing copies to be given for the use of the Senate and for the use of the House.

A bill to provide for the procuring of evidence against the keepers, owners and dealers of Faro banks, Faro tables and gaming tables.

BILLS ON THEIR SECOND READING.

The bill to incorporate the Cowee Mining and Manufacturing Company, being read.

Mr. Dorch said there was a general law on the subject, under which these companies might be incorporated without coming to the Legislature. The law on the subject of corporations ought to be enforced or repealed.

Mr. Bryson spoke in favor of the bill.

Mr. Hill, of Halifax, in reply to Mr. Dorch, said that persons out of the State were unwilling to invest their money in such a project, and that it was therefore necessary to have an act of incorporation; but the committee on corporations had stricken out several sections. Mr. B. at some length, appealed to the House to pass the bill.

Mr. Ward opposed the chartering of so many companies.

Mr. Dargan also opposed the bill, and mentioned several cases where incorporated companies had defrauded their creditors. He concluded by proposing a clause "that the private property of the corporations be liable for the debts of the company," which being adopted.

The bill passed its second reading.

The bill to incorporate the Southern Mining and Manufacturing Company, and an amendment adopted, making the stockholders liable for double the amount of their shares. Pending the debate.

The House adjourned till Monday morning.

MONDAY, Dec. 12, 1858.

SENATE.

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Mr. Ramsay presented three petitions from citizens of Davie county, praying the repeal of an act passed at the last session of the General Assembly to establish a public road through the counties of Lincoln and Davidson, and a ferry on the Yadkin river. Referred to the committee on propositions and grievances.

Mr. Basnight, a memorial from citizens of Orange county to the proposed repeal of the restrictions on pilots at that point. Referred to same committee.

Messrs. Battle, Carmichael and Ashe were announced on the committee on enrolled bills for the ensuing week.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

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Mr. Brown, from the committee on banks and currency, in favor of the bill to incorporate the Oak City Savings Bank, in Richmond.

RESOLUTIONS.

Mr. Elney, offered a resolution for the relief of Solomon M. Ray, sheriff of Yancey, releases him from the penalty of \$1000 for failure to settle with the comptroller, under certain conditions.

For the relief of Jackson Stuart, former sheriff of Yancey, releasing him from a like penalty under circumstances connected with the present sheriff's case. Both referred to the committee on propositions and grievances.

Mr. Bledsoe, a resolution in favor of J. J. James to refund overpaid taxes.

Mr. Cunningham moved that a message be sent to the House proposing to go forthwith into an election of thirteen Trustees of the University. Rejected by a vote of 17 to 16.

Mr. Pitchford moved to reconsider the vote by which the report from the public treasurer was taken on Saturday last. Rejected.

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On motion of Mr. Humphrey, the bill to incorporate the White Oak River Navigation Company was taken from the table and placed upon the file, the time for legal notice having expired.

On motion of Mr. Ramsay, the bill to incorporate the Salisbury Gaslight Company was similarly disposed of.

THE COUNTY OF CUNNINGHAM.

The second reading of the bill to establish the county of Cunningham, being the special order for 11 o'clock, was now proceeded with. The committee to whom the bill had been referred reported against its passage on the ground of insufficient population.

Mr. Elney, in supporting the bill, said he did not complain of the report of the committee on the grounds alleged, nor did he consider it material if the allegation were true. Under the present law, if it had thousands more and above the requisite number, it could make no difference in the representation in the Legislature till 1872. If that be the case, asked Mr. E., must the people of the proposed county continue to suffer from their grievous inconveniences till that time? In all cases of application for remedies for local defects, he (Mr. E.) had always shown the greatest deference to the representative, as he considered he was best acquainted with the wants of his constituents and the nature of the remedy required. He therefore demanded that the same consideration might be shown to him (Mr. E.) in this instance.

Mr. Elney then proceeded in a forcible manner to point out the hardships under which a large portion of the people proposed to be reached by this bill, were suffering. Some of them were distant some 40 miles from the county town of Henderson, and had to traverse a mountainous region of country in seasons when it was almost impassable; and he asked if it was possible the Senate would compel these people to submit to this till 1872. He then addressed himself to the question of population, and from rapid progress in the county of Henderson since the last census, he argued to show that the increase was such as to place that matter in a different light. In 1850 the white population of Henderson was 6,853. In the same year the State tax was \$3,532; county tax, \$4,090, and at the present time the tax amounted to \$8,428.78. The value of land had increased \$455,746 in eight years, and in eight years the vote of Henderson had been doubled. He believed the population of Henderson was now about 12,000. He then stated, why link this question of population with the question, as it could not be possible to alter the scale of representation for fourteen years to come? The exigencies of the case were what he relied on. It was proposed in the bill to attach to a portion of Henderson those portions of Jackson and Haywood included in a geographical line caused by steep mountains that almost interpose insurmountable barriers to the intercourse of people living in different parts of the same counties, as now constructed. He (Mr. E.) had no personal interest in this matter; he was laboring for the relief of a poor class of his fellow-citizens who were suffering under the disadvantages of the inconveniences to which he had alluded. Mr. Elney pursued the subject with much ability, and dwelt on the good results which he believed would flow to the State, as well as to those more immediately interested. And he remarked, in conclusion, that if the East was jealous of the growth and prosperity of the West, this bill would do it no injury. He (Mr. E.) came to this Legislature untrammelled, free to do what he thought right. He represented 6,000 freemen, and he would co-operate with Senators on all questions calculated to improve the State, no matter what section they came from or where located. He said he had been always anxious to maintain equality between men, and he proposed to do so by striking out "Clingman" and inserting "Blue Ridge."

Mr. Steele followed in opposition to the bill. He said it was a point with him to vote on all questions according to their merits, and on questions of this kind he allowed no sectional feelings to affect his judgment, but he viewed them in their effect on the State. He said that the bill would divide the county of Henderson into two parts, and that the people of the county would be divided. He said that the bill would divide the county of Henderson into two parts, and that the people of the county would be divided. He said that the bill would divide the county of Henderson into two parts, and that the people of the county would be divided.

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Mr. Elney replied that it would be 40 to 45 miles long, and 25 to 30 miles wide.

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Mr. Thomas reminded the east that she had twelve counties east of Raleigh which never had, and did not now have, the requisite population, and asked if it was fair just to refuse the west half of that number. Nor could it, he thought, be very fair to Mr. Elney, unless they were read, and an amendment adopted, making the stockholders liable for double the amount of their shares. Pending the debate.

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